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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Original) A concrete slab, in which a flexible geogrid is embedded, the slab having relatively thinner portions, along which the slab is breakable to form discrete blocks, and the slab having relatively thicker portions, which become said blocks when the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions, the flexible geogrid defining flexible members connecting said blocks to one another when the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions, the relatively thicker portions being arranged in parallel rows and being staggered in adjacent rows, before the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions.

2. (Original) The concrete slab of claim 1 wherein the relatively thicker portions in alternate rows are aligned in parallel columns, before the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions.

3. (Currently amended) An intermediate article in ~~in~~ the manufacture of an articulated, predominantly concrete mat, which comprises concrete blocks and a flexible geogrid embedded in said blocks and in which the flexible geogrid defines flexible members connecting said blocks to one another, the an intermediate article being a concrete slab, in which a flexible geogrid is embedded, the slab having relatively thinner portions, along which the slab is breakable to form said blocks, and the slab having relatively thicker portions, which become said blocks when the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions, the relatively thicker portions being arranged in parallel rows and being staggered in adjacent rows, before the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions.

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4. (Original) The intermediate article of claim 3 wherein the relatively thicker portions in alternate rows are aligned in parallel columns, before the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions.

5. (Currently amended) A process in ~~in~~ the manufacture of an articulated, predominantly concrete mat, which comprises concrete blocks and a flexible geogrid embedded in said blocks and in which the flexible geogrid defines flexible members connecting said blocks to one another, wherein the process comprises casting an intermediate article being a concrete slab, ~~a process wherein an intermediate article being a concrete slab is cast,~~ in which a flexible geogrid is embedded when the concrete slab is cast, the slab having relatively thinner portions, along which the slab is breakable to form said blocks, and the slab having relatively thicker portions, which become said blocks when the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions, the relatively thicker portions being arranged in parallel rows and being staggered in adjacent rows, before the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions.

6. (Original) The process of claim 5 wherein the relatively thicker portions are arranged in parallel rows and being staggered in adjacent rows, before the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions.

7. (Original) An intermediate article, which is made by the process of claim 5.

8. (Original) An intermediate article, which is made by the process of claim 6.